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CRUCK

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POLITICS MAKES STRANGE WHEEL-FELLOWS.

"In my opinion, Speaker Reed is the strongest and brainiest man in your (the Republican) party."

— President Cleveland to Congressman Milliken, as per N. Y. World.



RIDDEN DOWN.

HEN I TAUGHT Ida how to ride a
Bicycle that night,
I ran beside her, just to guide her
Erring wheel aright;
And many times there in the street
She rode upon my weary feet.

But now can Ida mount and ride a
Wheel with graceful ease,
And I, untiring in admiring,
Fall upon my knees
To worship her, — and, for her part,
She rides upon my proffered heart!

Ellis Parker Butler.

PROGRESSIVE.

CITY MAN.—I suppose you have n't such a thing as a political boss in your town?

SUBURBANITE. — Of course we have. We're no one-horse community!



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HAD SUFFERED ENOUGH.

MR. HOULIHAN.— Oi dhrempt lasht noight thot Oi died.
MRS. HOULIHAN.— An' how long did yez lay in purgatory?
MR. HOULIHAN.— Divil a minute! Saint Peter said to me,
"Yer kin go roight into heaven ter wunst, Houlihan; — Oi know
yer woife!"

"MCKINLEYIN"."

"Say, de Missus is learnin' to ride de bicycle."

"Yes, I done see her McKinleyin' down de street dis mawnin'."

"McKinleyin'; --- what 's dat?"

"Why, wabblin', an' tryin' to ride on bof sides de road at once."

THE REASON.

"What was the cause of the shouting at the magic-lantern show in the town hall last night?" inquired a prominent citizen of Coot's Crossroads.

"Why, when the picture of Neptune with his trident was thrown on the canvas, all the farmers in the audience cheered for Tillman and his pitchfork," was the reply.

OUT OF PLACE.

FOREIGN VISITOR.— I do not understand why you did not set up the Statue of Liberty somewhere in the city instead of out in the harbor.

Mr. Manhattan.—When you have been in New York one or two Sundays, you'll understand it all right.



PROHIBITIONIST.—You see, the free silver members of our party have seceded. They won't support the ticket.

FRIEND. — What do they propose to do, — run an independent ticket or take to drink?



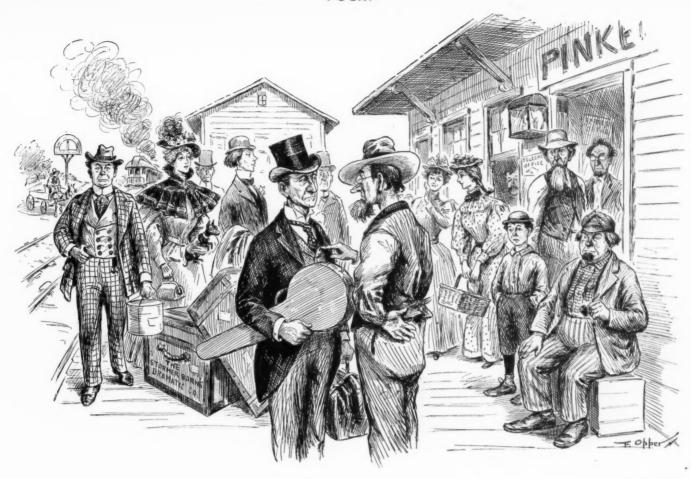
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AN INTERESTING GAME.

FIRST VASSAR STUDENT.—Oh! Em, we've had a perfectly lovely game, and I 'm all tired out!

SECOND VASSAR STUDENT.—What was the score?

FIRST VASSAR STUDENT.—There was n't any. You see, there was a very close decision in the first inning, and before we got through arguing with the umpire, it got too dark to see the ball.



BEFORE PLAYING PINKERTOWN.

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"So you're goan to give a show.
Well, I s'pose you likely know
Yer own bus'ness, but I 'm glad
— Ez fer me — I never had
Money in the show biz here,
Fer our folks is mighty queer.
An' you see when they first built
Our new Op'ry House, they kilt
The hull bus'ness; cause they give
More shows than could run — an' live.

"Give two in one week, one time.
One was minstrels. They was prime!
But what kilt us was the other;
Some blame lecturer or-ruther
Talked about a chiny wall
An' a Pyramids an' all
That there sort o' rot. An' so,
Bein' as folks had paid, you know,
Fifteen cents to see a show,

Lots of 'em felt ruther sore An' don't go to shows no more.

"Course your show is good? No doubt. But you see the town's showed out; Less'n three weeks back, we had Hamlut. Had it purty bad. Actors — they was purty fair, Speshly one with yeller hair. He had talunt! He could shout An' jes' drown the others out! But the play itself was sad. 'Sides it was a draggy, bad Sort of sadness. Didn't begin, To come up to ol' East Lynne!

"Jabez Tubbs, he sez, sez he,
'I'll take ol' East Lynne fer me.
Mebbe these new plays is fine,
But I'll take the old fer mine.'

Scuse me fer goan on this way, But I'm feared yer show won't pay.

"It's a bad week fer a show,
'Cause most folks that gits to go
Is a restin' up jest now
Fer the Social. An' that's how
Things most always is round here.
P'r'aps there s nothin' fer a year,
Then first thing a feller knows,
We're just overrun with shows.

"P'r'aps a little later might
Find a better week an' night.
Still, I dunno, fer ye see
P'tracted meetin' soon 'll be,
An' of course you know that's free,
An' of course that kills a show
Where you got to pay to go."

J. Edmund V. Cooke.

THE REV. UP-TO-DATE.

MRS. DORCAS.—The congregation is going to make up a purse and send the minister away for the Summer on a trip to the Holy Land.

DORCAS.—That 's a first-rate idea. He 'll come back in the Fall and deliver a course of sensational sermons on the immoralities of Paris,

A DEFENSE.

SHE. — It is a shame that the papers should publish tips on horse-races.

HE.—Oh, well! people like to have some one else to blame when they lose their money.

TORNEL TO SEE THE SECOND TO SECOND THE SECOND TO SECOND



"Confound it! My cigar is out again, and I have n't a match in my clothes.

HOW A LAZY MAN GOT A LIGHT.

"I was born tired and can't get up for one. Ah Bridget has left the candle burning on the table!



"How easy!"



WHIGHT, 1806, BY KEPPLEH & SCHWARZMANN

A QUESTION OF COLOR.

MISS RECHERCHE (indignantly).— Did you tell Jim Jackson dat ef he married me he 'd hab a white elephant on hees hands?

MISS SNOFLAIKE.—No, indeed, I did n't! Do yo' fink I'se color-blind?

HOW TO BE MISCHIEVOUS.

the MISCHIEVOUS child has many avenues of amusement open to him which are closed to children of a less adventurous disposition. Most children would gladly be mischievous if they had the inventive minds that are necessary, and it has therefore seemed wise to present a few little hints that may prove useful on a rainy day.

Now that posters are the fad, "poster decoration" is fast attaining prominence as a good game for a dull, house-compelling day. Get a poster of any size, and with a pair of Mama's best scissors cut out the body colors as in the manner of preparing shadow pictures. Now fill a pail with water and empty into it a bottle of bluing. Let little brother or sister hold the stencil which you have made of the poster close against the parlor wall, just above the surbase, and then daub the whole thing, using a whitewash brush or, better still, the whisk brush. Now remove the stencil, and if you have been careful you will find that you have made a beautiful blue figure upon the wall. Take a step to the right and repeat the performance, and follow it up all around the room. Be careful not to spill the bluing upon the floor, or Mama may be angered. In a handsome parlor, the effect of all these stenciled pictures

is indescribable, and often calls forth much comment from parents; particularly if they have a love for art and decorative signs.

Another nice way of killing time, if there are no houses within two hundred feet of the rear of yours, is to take a piece of card-board and paste it upon the back parlor windows, first having cut it into the form of a circular target. Now take your air-gun and see how near you can come to the bull's-eye. Care should be taken not to make any hole in the window panes outside of the target, as it mars the looks of the glass.

If the childhood of those little kids who read this is made any happier by applying these useful hints, I shall feel that I have not written in vain.

Charles Battell Loomis.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

They were examining her photograph, taken by the cathodic process. "Do you think my skull is on straight?" she inquired, anxiously.



& SCHWARZMANN

A RETROSPECT.

FIRST TRAMP.—Wuz you ever married?
SECOND TRAMP.—Well, I jist wish I had all the alimony I owe!

ALONE THEY DID IT.

CLERGYMAN (kindly).—And after you had committed this awful crime, the power of prayer availed to show you to yourself in all your hideousness. Was it not so?

REPENTANT MURDERER— No, sir; 't was the pictures of me in the newspapers.

HER ARCHITECTURE.

"The eyes are windows of the soul,"
Some say that hers are show ones;
But, from the suitors they attract,
I think they must be beau ones.

UNAPPRECIATIVE.

LITTLE BOY. — What 's that, Mama?

MAMA. — The prize-medal.

LITTLE BOY. — And does the winner have to

NO INDUCEMENT.

THE HEAD OF THE FIRM.— This new clerk does n't know much about getting up an advertisement.

HIS PARTNER. - No?

THE HEAD OF THE FIRM. - No; he says here, "our prices are reasonable."



HE LOOKED TO THE RIGHT AND LEFT.

MISS WHEELER.— Is n't the scenery beautiful along that road? Ryder.— Very! I 'm using court-plaster and arnica on account of that scenery.

OVER THE FENCE IS OUT; OR, HOW HUNGRY HAWKINS RAISED A MEAL.



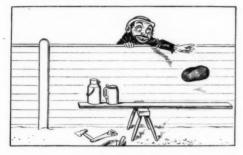
MR. MURPHY (who is doing some carpentering in Dinkelspiel's backyard).— Many t'anks, Mr. Dinkelspiel, fer th' mug o' beer. It 'll go moighty good



MR. MURPHY. - Oi 'll just go an' wash me face an' hands afore Oi ates.



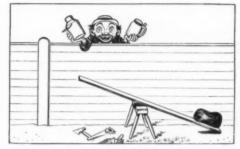
HUNGRY HAWKINS.—I asked de felly down de street fer bread an' he gave me a stone - dis cobble-stone I can't eat it, but it may git me somethin' to eat.



HUNGRY HAWKINS .- Biff!



HUNGRY HAWKINS .- Buff.



HUNGRY HAWKINS.-1 did n't play backstop fer de Red Stockin's six years fer nothink; I did n't!

A COOL SPOT.

"Willy 's got the greatest scheme for Summer you ever heard of!"

"Tell me about it."

"He's going to start a roof-garden in his

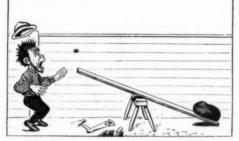
THE GIFT HORSE.

"Pretty soon, I supproverbs."

pose," murmured the ex-cowboy, "we'll even have to change our

"Which one, for instance?"

"We'll have to say that one should not look a gift bicycle in the spokes." THE SUPPLEMENT.



MR. CASEY (returning, and crossing himself in -Th' Saints presarve us! The divil's witches awe!.—Th' Saints presarve us! The divil's witches how bin here an' changed me dinner inter a stone an' rolled it th' other ind uv th' board



beer makes de best layout I ever struck.

"My second cousin, Jabez," remarked Enoch Sogback, in a reminiscent way, "was a man who always believed in being truthful to the

very letter. If a neighbor met him and said that it looked like rain, Jabez never answered 'yes' or 'no' till he had scanned the

whole heavens carefully to see exactly what the prospect was. When he took dinner at anybody's house and the hostess pressed him to eat more, saying, as good housewives often do, that he had eaten hardly anything, he would gravely enumerate every item of victuals he had eaten. When his first wife died he was inconsolable for a time, and went and had these words carved on her tombstone: 'The light of my life has gone out.' Well, about

a year later he married again, and then he promptly had this line cut on the tombstone just below his previous an-

nouncement: 'But fortunately I have since struck another match.' That was the kind of a man my second cousin Jabez was."

TOM. - Miss Brown begins to show her age, I think. DICK. - She is n't as old as she looks. Her hair is prematurely dyed.



HUNGRY HAWKINS .- Dese Irish dir ners wid Dutch

NATURALLY.

Young Isaacs .-Here is an adfertise-ment ohf a family vot is goin' to Europe und vants to sell dere furniture at von quvarter vot it 's vorth.

ISAACS. - Vell, you might go undt see it; but you must get dem to gome down mit dere extrafagand notions about der brice.



AN INFALLIBLE RULE.

POET.-How do you know the editor is n't in? OFFICE-BOY. - From your looks.



MRS. DOOLEY .- Mickey, run down on th' flure below an' ask Mrs. Cohenstein fer th' loan av her marnin' paper. Oi want t' see will it rain th' day.



MRS. DOOLEY (as MICKEY brings back a Hebrew paper). - Take it back, Mickey, an' ask her phwat she manes by sindin' me oop a shate av music

SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

HAVE BEEN there myself; so, behold! I offer the following: Grip the handles tightly, straddle the back wheel, give one or two short hops, and - then arise, brush the dirt from your clothes, straighten the handle-bar and begin again.

Grasp the handles tightly, give one or two short hops,—then take your wheel up onto the sidewalk and allow that wagon (now four blocks away) to pass.

This is enough for one lesson. It is necessary to repeat

this eight or ten times, and afterwards all is plain sailing. Don't try to mount a wheel with expectation of avoiding any of this mode of procedure. It can't be done. This formula, if you are of the sterner sex, may be accompanied by such relieving expressions as are usual under trying circumstances; but I would suggest that the ladies confine themselves to

"sugar," or, in case of a bad fall, "darn." I here give you also ten commandments, compiled by me after many tedious mishaps.

They are guaranteed against defects in material and workmanship, and will be replaced if presented within one year from date, if express charges are paid.

To avoid tiresome climbs up long hills on windy days with a high gear - use a low

gear. II. To cover mileage and to do centuries in "surprisingly" short time - use a cyclometer

with a key. III. To escape disfigurement of the face - allow his claim that his wheel is the best made.

IV. To insure getting home whole - give way to the rider who seems to be tacking against

V. To keep your conscience free and clear - don't mention wheels in connection with the head. I have seen this joke sprung on a defenseless man twenty miles from They took him home in the home. cars.

VI. To avoid paying for repairs - don't tell the dealer that story about the smooth road and the five-miles-an-hour gait. He has heard it too often.

VII. When visiting the bicycle church - be careful not to talk in

your sleep.
VIII. Trolley cars are hard. Beside, if you do them damage you are liable to arrest.

IX. If you are in New York and stop at a hotel on Sunday, do not say, "Can I get any liquor here on Sunday?" but sit quietly down, as other gentlemen do, and request of the waiter "a sandwich and a little Raines Water."

X. A tandem with a girl on the front is a good thing to push down, but not up hill. Therefore, if a hill suddenly rises before you, have her dismount while you think you notice a puncture, and conclude not to re-

mount until you reach the top. And these things of which I speak, may they do you good, as they might have done me had I but known.

Peddler.



MAY .- And you told your mother that he had been introduced to you?

ETHEL.—Well, he was in-

troduced to me.

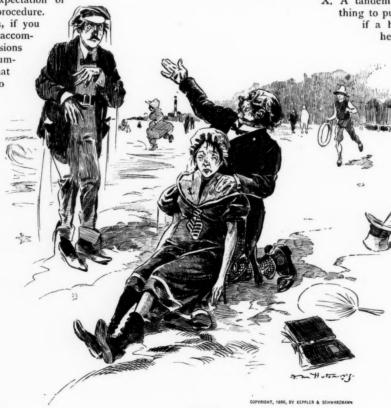
MAY .- By whom? ETHEL. - By himself.

"OH, HENRY! how can you sav such harsh things of my dear mama; of the mother who bore me?" "Well, she should n't bore

THE OPTIMIST is the man who asks for "cream" when he knows it is milk.

F WISHES were saw-horses, that would be a horse on beggars.

THE MILLENNIUM, as some people look forward to it, will consist in pressing a button and taking a



SAFE.

THE RESCUED ONE'S FATHER (with tears of gratitude in his eyes) .-Oh! brave, noble young man! You must have realized the danger you incurred in saving my daughter.

THE RESCUER.- No danger at all, sir; not at all! You see, I'm already married.

PUCK.

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CARTOONS AND COMMENTS.

F WISHES were horses, beggars would go into the canned beef industry. For beggars will be choosers, despite the bad taste of it, and no beggar would A PROP TO GOOD SENSE.

choose to ride a horse in this day of the bicycle. A year ago people called it "the bicycle craze," and foretold its early passing. But it did not pass. A year ago there were shops for its sale. To-day there is hardly any other article handled by so many different tradesmen. The butcher, the baker, and the maker of gas-fixtures, all carry side-lines of "the best wheel made." In the world of print nothing is quite so pervasive. There are but three publications in the country, we believe, that have not at some time put out special "bicycle numbers," - the Congressional Record, the Undertakers' Gazette and the War Cry. It is as a promoter of moderation and sobriety, however, that PUCK now hails this vanquisher of the horse. It is a truth easy of demonstration that the rider of a wheel can not tarry at the wine shop; for riding demands a clear head, an even pulse and sober feet. Reports indicate unmistakably that the bicyclist becomes an advocate of the drinks that are called "soft," and a shunner of intoxicants.

Just as the bicycle has decreased tippling, so too, we think, will it inspire a more temperate indulgence in the strong liquor of political As a topic of conversation it is imperious and compelling. It argument. fills the talk of all sorts and conditions of men, and it draws together in close sympathy many who would be hotly antagonistic over the right or wrong of Free Trade. Where two or more men are now gathered together, the talk is of tire and gear and saddle and sprocket. Of course there is no general agreement on these important details. Opinions differ widely and they are set forth often with rasping dogmatism. But there is a common ground whereon all meet in heavenly amity: which is that, however you are mounted, cycling is the best sport in the world. All agree with this except the possible poor fellow who has not yet learned to ride. But he counts for little. He sits by, silent and awkward, understanding that

he is regarded by the rest with pity or a sort of puzzled contempt. is where the bicycle is superior to politics as a subject for friendly encounter. When two good American citizens of opposing political faiths talk politics, each takes the ground that the other belongs to a party that is secretly pledged to overthrow the Constitution of the United They have no neutral territory. They declare themselves and insult each other in the various degrees that civilization permits. In past campaigns this wrangling has been a fruitful source of discord and malice and mischief. The habit of thoughtful judgement and the sense of fairness have both suffered. It was a grievous misdirection of energy. It obscured or distorted the real issues and entailed a sad loss of selfrespect. It was a menace to the principles of decent self-restraint on which our society rests. It has given us campaigns of villification and personal abuse and general nastiness, of which we became properly ashamed when we sobered up. We look to see the bicycle largely remedy this evil. Brown can not persist in regarding Jones as a traitor to his country after he learns that he and Jones swear by the same brand of bicycle. punctures his bigotry. As a subject for friendly talk it clears the air of distrust and some of the arrogant pride of opinion. Undoubtedly we shall have fewer heated political arguments this Summer, and, as a result, there will be a cooler and a worthier consideration of the legitimate issues of the campaign. All of which means that we shall vote next November with a better intelligence than heretofore. The bicycle is hereby proclaimed a power for civic virtue. Should anything further be discovered to its credit due notice will be given in these columns.

THE WHEELS were revolving at a fearful rate THE END OF THE ARGUMENT. within the skull of the Silverite. Despite its thickness their ominous whirring was heard with-

The Silverite had his mind at work.

"It's the old threadbare argument" he said in masterful tones; "that one about melting a silver dollar and finding out that you've only got fifty cents worth of silver. But let me ask you

His brow darkened and he levelled an accusing forefinger at the shrinking Gold-bug.

"— what would you have left if you submitted a paper dollar to the flames of that melting furnace of yours?

"Well, I'd have the furnace left, would n't I?" said the Gold-bug, trying to be funny.

"Yes, and nothing else," retorted the Silverite, hotly. "Your paper

dollar would burn to nothing, while, as for silver — "
"Pardon me," interrupted the Gold-bug, for he saw that he was wasting his time, "but we are not advocating the free-coinage of waste paper, and until we do your argument cleaves no ice."

So saying he climbed up onto his gold platform and left the Silverite at his work of framing a bill to permit every American citizen to raise himself by his boot-straps.

AN APPEAL TO THE DEMOCRATIC MULE.



BALAAM! I warn you, beware of the day When Sound Money shall meet you in battle array!

If you bray for free coinage you herald your doom; For sixty-cent dollars you 'll find there 's no room.

When Old Hickory groomed you and led you along, You 'd plenty of sense and a Sound Money song.

You 've always been called a real honest old mule, -Now don't act the rascal and don't play the fool!

The Elephant's banner 's emblazoned with gold, -'T is honored throughout the wide world, I am told.

Sound Money must win, that 's a foregone conclusion, -Free Silver 's a Jack-o'-the-lantern delusion.

If you follow its light, you 'll go down in a bog, And flounder around like a flea-ridden hog.

Your load of free silver will sink you down deep, -While the Elephant trumpets for victory, you 'll weep,

And when the wide world hears your bray of despair, Oh! whom do you think they will say 's buried there?

A mule of his senses entirely bereft, -And he 'd best in the mud-hole forever be left.

So we'll rear o'er his carcass a monument high: And, to warn other parties that chance to pass by,

We'll write this plain legend on each separate side: "He swallowed free silver, and that 's how he died."



AN ASSURANCE.

POPULIST. - You can count on my vote every time. I know you'll never betray your constituents

CANDIDATE. - Betray my constituents? I'd as soon think of gettin' a shave!



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A DESPERATE CASE OF POLI DR. PUCK.—My unfortunate friend, we eminent physicians have held a consultation, and have decided that

UCK.



OF POLITICAL DIPSOMANIA.

decided that nothing will save you but an immediate and thorough application of the GOLD CURE.



A BAD CASE.

MRS. STRONGMIND .- And is she really going to marry him?

MISS OURKINDE .- Yes.

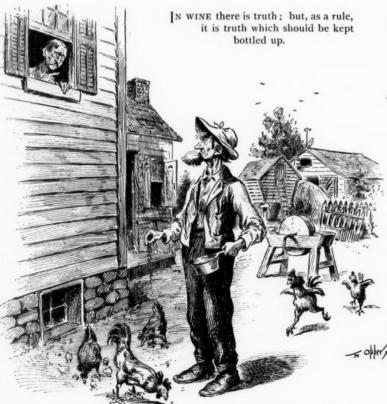
MRS. STRONGMIND. - How sad! And does she love him?

MISS OURKINDE. - Yes.

MRS. STRONGMIND. - How foolish!

HIS OBJECTION.

WHEELMAN.— Is n't this an ideal bicycle road? NOVICE.— No; it 's good enough while you ride, but it 's too hard when you fall.



SEEMED TO NEED AN OPIATE.

CITY BOARDER. - Can't anything be done for those poor chickens

FARMER. - What is the matter with 'em?

BOARDER. - Insomnia; - none of them could sleep a wink after four o'clock this morning.

UTILIZING THE DOCTRINE.

FIRST OFFICE Boy.—Reg'lar snap! Me new boss is a theosophist—one of them fellers that believes you come to life again when you die.

SECOND OFFICE BOY .- What good is that to you?

FIRST OFFICE BOY .- What good is it? Wait till you see how often my grandmother 's goin' to die this Summer.

DEAR AT ANY PRICE.

"I don't see how they can sell that paper for a cent."
"I don't see how they can sell it at any price."



IN GROWING OKLAHOMA.

ALKALI IKE .- Wot did yer ever hang sech a good feller ez Grizzly Pete for?

EARLESS EDDY .- Why, de blame fool went an' killed a total stranger in town, 'fore we had time ter get his name on de

ADMIRATION.

HUSBAND (contemplating a purchase) .- I like those "Gladstone" bags.

WIFE. - So do I. Is n't he a wonderful man to find time to invent anything like that?

SURE ENOUGH.

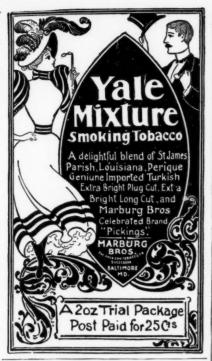
"Lucy, I've half a mind to spank you! Why is it you never want a drink of water until after I have turned out the gas?"

"I don' know, Mama. Why is it you allers turn out the gas jus' 'fore I want a drink o' water?"

NOT FAVORABLY CONSIDERED.

DEACON BROWN .- The parson is talkin' about gettin' more salary. DEACON JONES .- What? An' him gettin' eight hundred now; an' may be, fer all we know, plaguyaryizin' his sermons at that!

QUOTATIONS FOR epic poetry may have advanced since "Paradise Lost" was sold for five pounds, but there is no boom.



No MAN ever thought a woman was an angel, though many of them have lied about it.—Atchison Globe.

Baltimore Rye The American Gentleman's

WHISKEY, FOR CLUB, FAMILY AND MEDICINAL

BEST

WHISKEY

AMERICA

Endorsed by Leading Physicians when stimulant is prescribed.

It is pure."

"Drink HUNTER RYE. Pure, Old, Mellow. SOLD AT ALL

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APPRECIATED

'94 that healthfulness of the le was a vital point in bicycling; constant experiments since have resulted in the pro-



duction of our present saddle; in fact, it not only is healthful and comfortable but durable and handsome

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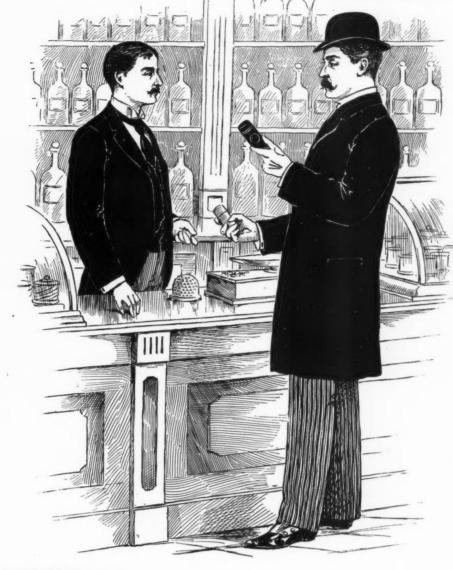
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HIS HAPPINESS for months depends upon his decision. If wise he will insist upon WILLIAMS' SHAVING STICK. In no other is the

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BARBER'S itch is a torturing dis-time unless prompt measures are taken. See JOHN H. WOODBURY, 127 West 42d Street, New York. 128 Page Beauty Book for 3-cent stamp.

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(Spring

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"Superstitious?" echoed the other man,
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"I should say so! He
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EMPTY WORDS.

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BUZROW.—Not only that, but he makes wind of it, too.—Roxbury Gazette.

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"Are they contemplating wedlock?"
"I think so. He gave her a gold brace-let with a padlock, and he carries the key.—
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"Going a-walking, kind sir," she said.
"May I go with you, my pretty maid?"

my pretty maid?"
"I don't walk with a stick, kind sir," she said.—Wrinkle.

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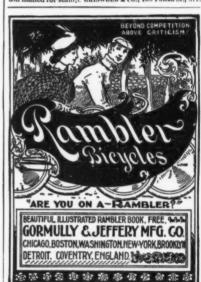
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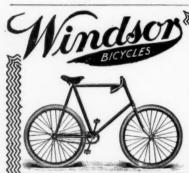
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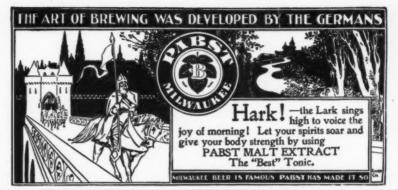


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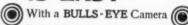
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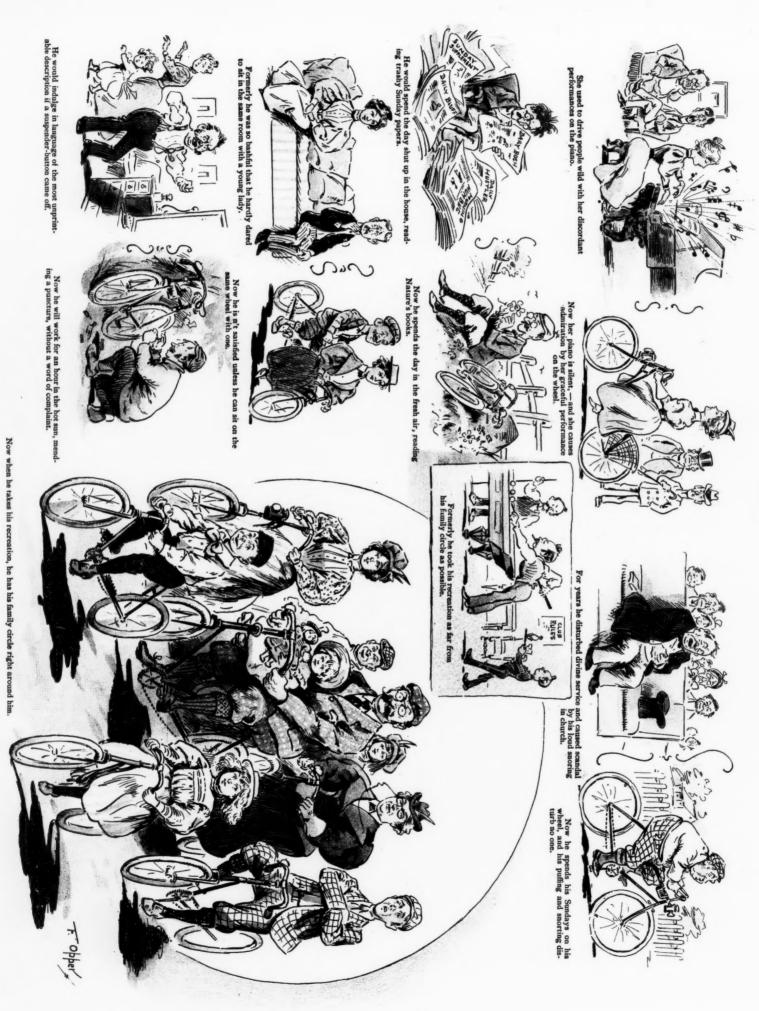
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